

**Update from the Nith Valley Re-Learning Community Team
(Lois, Tammy and Kathryn)**

Living life in community with others, while also discipling one another, continues to be a major focus for our team. Monday night Missional Community wrapped up just before the summer and we recently enjoyed another season of church campfires over the past couple of months. Being part of a Missional Community was a rich experience. The regularity of meeting 3 weeks out of each month led to a familiarity with each other and predictability for our schedules. For some this high commitment level was a bit much and for some (like Simon!) there was great anticipation for each Monday night. Through recent brainstorming, we have some new initiatives to offer beginning throughout the fall and we hope they are exciting for all!

Tammy will continue to offer a missional community on Monday evenings. Based on the group, they will decide together the timing and frequency. This will likely start sometime in October. Please consider it and watch for more details soon.

Stay tuned for “First Sunday” groups and monthly gym nights. Again, more details will follow on both of these.

Our next gathering with the greater Re-learning Community is in mid-November. Please let any of us know if you would be interested in attending. We are grateful for the opportunity to learn and grow as disciples and leaders during these weekends away.

Litany of Covenant and Installation for Greg Yantzi & Nith Valley Mennonite Church

Jackie: God has called us to be a light to the world. God has created each of us in unique ways so that we might joyfully use our gifts to share the love and grace of Jesus Christ with one another and the world around us.

Congregation: We believe all people are invited to live in harmony with one another and all of creation so that God's love and mercy might be shared in all nations. Today we renew our commitment to share the good news of Jesus Christ and encourage one another in our daily journey.

Lois: We recognize that in the Church there is also the need to call people for the special task of pastoral leadership. Greg, we invite you to serve among us as our interim minister as fellow servants of Christ. We receive you as a messenger of the Gospel of peace, salvation and mercy.

Dan: We are entering an important time in the life of our congregation. We welcome you as our interim pastor and invite you to walk alongside our community and give leadership in our various ministries, which include Spiritual Formation, Worship, Pastoral Care and as we nurture relationships across generations.

Lois: We welcome your leadership in this time of transition as we celebrate the many years of ministry with Matt & Hendrike but also grieve their absence and the loss of their unique gifts.

Jackie: We welcome your leadership as we dream about new possibilities and take time to listen for God's guiding voice, in order to discern the vision and direction in which the congregation might grow, in preparation for new pastoral leadership. We also receive you as a member of our faith community as commended by Cassel Mennonite Church. We joyfully accept you as a partner in our congregational life and ministry in the world!

Greg: I will love, serve and pray for you, the people of God who meet in this place. I will nurture you in the ministry of word and worship. I will offer spiritual care where there is need. I will speak truthfully, even when it is hard, and ask questions that might be difficult to hear, and also listen to what you have to share from your lives and faith stories, as I lead the congregation forward during this important time of change. I look forward to our journey together, being open to the surprises of the Spirit along the way. By God's grace, I accept the responsibilities of leadership in this congregation.

Jackie: Our call to you, Greg, is to endeavour to be faithful to God in Christ, to remain open to the leading of the Spirit in this community of faith, to be sensitive to the needs of people, and to serve in the Spirit of love and light. May almighty God, who has given you the will to lead, give you the power of the Spirit so that you may direct and nurture with strength and compassion.

Marilyn: On behalf of MCEC we commend Greg to this congregation, and I install him as Interim Pastor of Nith Valley Mennonite Church. I offer you the support of the larger MCEC community in your faithful walk during this time together.

Congregation: We will pray for Greg as he offers his gifts of leadership among us. We pledge our willingness to live together in the peace and unity of Christ.

Signing of the Covenant Regarding Ethics in Ministry

Prayer of Blessing